

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 302105

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (SOLARZ, STEPHEN)

SUBJECT: CODEL SOLARZ

REF: JIDDA 7969

1. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ WAS EASILY RE-ELECTED TO THE 13TH DISTRICT OF NEW YORK (NEW YORK CITY) WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS THE MOST HEAVILY JEWISH DISTRICT IN THE US. HE OPPOSED THE MAVERICK SALE TO SAUDI ARABIA, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THAT OPPOSITION. HE HAS, HOWEVER, TAKEN AN ACTIVE ROLE IN QUESTIONING THE ENTIRE RANGE OF ARMS SALES TO THE ARAB WORLD. HE HAS SUPPORTED SECURITY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION FOR ISRAEL AND EGYPT, BUT SPONSORED AN AMENDMENT-TO THE SECURVTY ASSISTANCE BILL WHICH WOULD HAVE ELIMINATED SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FOR SYRIA ON THE GROUNDS OF THE SYRIAN BAN ON JEWISH EMIGRATION. HE IS AN ACTIVE SUPPORTER OF ANTI-BOYCOTT LEGISLATION, BUT NOT A LEADER OF THAT EFFORT.

2. SOLARZ IS VERY BRIGHT ARTICULATE CONGRESSMAN WHO HAS SUPPORTED DEPARTMENT ON BROAD RANGE OF FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, ESPECIALLY GREECE-TURKEY. KISSINGER

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